Minnesota MUFON Journal
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Directors Report

Ghost Rockets
by Dick Moss, MN MUFON State Dir.

Ghost rockets followed on the heels of the foo fighters. This installment of the UFO phenomenon was first recognized when Finland broadcast over Helsinki radio on Feb. 26, 1946 that "inordinate meteor activity" had been noticed in that nation's northern districts near the Arctic Circle. Three months later, people in northern Sweden began seeing unusual objects in the sky. On June 9 a "rocket" passed over Helsinki at night leaving a luminous afterglow. This was followed by a report claiming that a luminous object producing a glowing vapor had approached Finland, only to turn sharply and retrace its course.

The logical assumption was that these might be Soviet modifications of Germany's V-1 and V-2 rockets. In June of 1944 Germany had launched a rocket from the Peenemunde site in an attempt to test a new form of radio guidance. The new system failed and the rocket went off course and exploded with most of the wreckage coming down close to a farm house in Sseden. After the farm family posed with soldiers next to the wreckage the military gathered up the remains and hauled it away for examination.

During 1946 more than 2000 objects were reported over Scandinavia. The objects looked like torpedo-shaped rockets complete with fiery exhausts and tail fins. They sometimes performed spectacular maneuvers such as dives, climbs, barrel-rolls and backtracking. Their velocities ranged from leisurely to tremendous speeds. Those that resembled meteors moved about in an "unmeteorlike" way.

Some rockets were seen to explode in the air. The press reported that recovered residue consisted of particles of dark slag-like material. Conventional wisdom held that the Russians were testing captured German V-2s but radar operators in England maintained that these objects did not originate from Russia. Ghost rockets were taken seriously because it was believed that the Russian army had captured both German scientists and rockets. But, eventually it became known that almost all of the captured German technology and scientists had come to the United States. The Swedish public became alarmed and their government began to censor news reports. A committee, perhaps the first UFO investigative group ever, was formed to study ghost rocket sightings, The phenomenon seemed to slowly move south and some ghost rockets were eventually seen as far away as India.

In one instance a meteorologist was watching cloud formations with a telescope and thought he spotted an airplane. It's speed was fast enough that he quickly changed his mind.

Minnesota Mufon Meetings

Sat., Nov. 13th & Sat., Dec. 11th
1:30-5pm

New Brighton Family Service Center
400 - 10th St. NW
(located 1/4-mile S.W. of Hwy 694 and 35W.)

PARK FREE!
The building is designated as non-smoking.

See map on back cover
(Note: The building has no special security, so you can come and go as you please and smoke outdoors. There are elevators for those who may need them.)

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He estimated it to be a little over a mile away and could hear no noise. The object exploded but no sound was heard.

There were reports that some of these objects had landed and then exploded. Accounts are contradictory. Supposedly, scientists had analyzed fragments and thought that they were made of an organic substance resembling carbide. Another account reads that many had crashed but no fragments were ever found. In August of 1947 Lt. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle and David Sarnoff went to Sweden to, among other things, investigate the ghost rocket phenomenon. The reported lack of wreckage was puzzling to Doolittle. Debris should have fallen from any missile that had exploded in the atmosphere.

On July 9, 1946, Erik and Asa Reutersward were vacationing and went to the top of a forest lookout tower in order to photograph the view. At the moment he snapped the picture a light was passing overhead and ended up in the upper part of the resulting photo. Thousands had reportedly seen the greenish-white object, but only one lucky picture had captured its image. While moving downward it disappeared with a burst of flames and a hissing sound. Reports came in from a large area over central Sweden, which suggested that the object was high in the atmosphere. The event lasted only for a moment and Reuterswald thought that he had photographed a bright meteor. It was at about this time that the phenomenon reached its peak.

Objects had also appeared over Greece and an official investigation was conducted in 1947. Twenty years later the project leader, Paul Santorini, said that their investigation had concluded that the objects were not missiles. Official Greek files on ghost rockets remain classified.

Ghost rockets also appeared over Denmark, Finland, and Norway. In one case, objects were seen passing overhead every ten minutes. Bursts of fire were followed by a roaring sound and some estimated the speed at about 2000 mph. Others were reportedly crashing into Scandinavian lakes.

One British newspaper, The Guardian, suggested that the Russians were testing captured rockets to exhibit some of their "toys." Because Russia had no atomic bomb this was a way to intimidate and create fear. But, as indicated above, the Russians had few, if any, V-2s to launch.

Investigations continued and a secret message from the British embassy in Stockholm to London wrote of collecting porous, yellow fragments that would burn and also of a porous black carbon-like material. Some thought it might be waste products from Russian rocket fuel while a former intelligence officer, after examining a piece, said it was only a piece of pit coal. Analysis by some chemists failed to identify a material that had reportedly fallen from a passing rocket.

After admitting that about 80% of the 1000 cases could be caused by natural light phenomena, the Swedish Commander-in-Chief in a report of October 11, 1946 stated, "There have however, in a number of cases, been sightings which cannot be attributed to natural phenomena, or dismissed as figments of the imagination." Although no projectile ever was found, the report states, nevertheless, that "not with any single crash has anything been found that can indicate material from some kind of space projectile."

A few sightings of this type of craft have been made since the 1940's. On July 27, 1984 the crew of a Lear jet flying from northern New York to Pittsburgh spotted an object to the west. They first thought that it might be a meteor but realized that it was a cylindrical object about 50 feet in length. It was emitting a bright orange-red discharge from the rear which was bursting on and off. Sparks remained for several seconds before fading away. The UFO then paced their airplane. As they prepared to land, the UFO left.

On Aug. 18, 1985 four men aboard a Cessna were flying along Sweden's eastern coast when an object approached them. The pilot said that they could see that it was a metallic missile with steering fins at the back. This object appeared similar to those reported forty years earlier.

Internet sources used:
http://parascope.com, http://about.com, http://ufo.it, http://ufoevidence.org. Eddie Bullard has contributed several ghost rocket sightings to the Project 1947 web site: http://www.project1947.com/.

Written sources used - Article in Ronald Story's Encyclopedia of UFOs written by Loren Gross. Strange Skies and The UFO Book by Jerome Clark.

Several Notable UFO Figures have passed recently:

1961: UNFORGETTABLE BETTY HILL (excerpts) UFO ROUNDUP, Vol. 9, No. 43, Oct. 27, 2004, by Joseph Trainor,

Masinaigan@aol.com
http://www.ufoinfo.com/roundup/

One of the key figures of Twentieth Century ufology assed away in New Hampshire last week. Betty Hill succumbed to cancer at her home on Monday, October 18, 2004. She was 85.

Born in 1919, Betty was a 41-year-old housewife in Portsmouth, N.H. when she had her UFO experience, which opened the door to the phenomenon we know call "alien abduction."

Betty and her husband were living in Portsmouth in September 1961. Barney Hill, 39, "worked as a mail-sorter in Boston, commuting the 120-mile (193-kilometer) round trip each day. Betty was a social worker for the state of New Hampshire. Both were very active in civil rights campaigning and were on their church's United Nations Committee."

(Editor's Note: Liberal churches in the USA formed these committees to combat the right-wing John Birch Society. During the early 1960s, the JBS organized local committees called TRAIN--To Restore American Independence Now—which lobbied for the USA's withdrawal from the United Nations.)

"In mid-September 1961," Betty and Barney "drove to Canada for a short break from their hectic schedule. The weather reports spoke of a hurricane moving along the (USA's) East Coast. They decided on an all-night drive home to avoid the impending storm." At 9 p.m. on September 19, 1961, the Hills "had dinner in Colebrook, N.H. and then continued their journey southbound on U.S. Highway 3."

At a place called Indian Head, "near Lancaster, N.H., just west of the White Mountains, Betty noticed a bright light near the moon, and getting brighter. However, the light didn't go away, and they stopped their car to see it better."

"Looking through binoculars, Barney thought it was an aircraft (he was an avid 'plane watcher'--P.B.) and suggested various types it might be. They drove on slowly, but now the light seemed to be closer."

"Betty looked through the binoculars and said she could see a huge craft with a double row of windows. They stopped again. Barney took the binoculars and walked towards the light, which had dropped to tree height, until he was only 50 feet (15 meters) from it."

[Ed. Note: Details of the encounter were presented in an article in the last issue of MN MUFON Journal #109 titled "Retracing the Interrupted Journey" by Craig Lang]

Barney died of a cerebral hemorrhage in 1969. Betty remained a resident of New Hampshire for the following 35 years. "Betty Hill continued to believe in the reality of her abduction." During interviews from the 1970s to the 1990s, Betty admitted that she had had occasional visual encounters with UFOs, but she would not say if she had had meetings with extraterrestrials since that fatal day in September 1961.

Betty Hill now knows the answer to the continuing UFO mystery. (See the book UFO: The Complete Sightings by Peter Brookesmith, Barnes & Noble Books, 1995, pages 74 and 75.) Copyright 2004 by Masinaigan Productions, all rights reserved.

Gordon Cooper
NASA Mercury Pioneer, Dies

http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=519&e=4&u=/ap/obit_cooper

VENTURA, Calif. - Gordon Cooper, who as one of the original Mercury astronauts was a pioneer in human space exploration, has died. He was 77. Cooper died Monday at his home in Ventura, NASA (news - web sites) officials said in a statement.

"As one of the original seven Mercury astronauts, Gordon Cooper was one of the faces of America's fledgling space program," said NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe. "He truly portrayed the right stuff, and he helped gain the backing and enthusiasm of the American public, so critical for the spirit of exploration. My thoughts and prayers are with Gordon's family during this difficult time."

Cooper piloted the final flight of the Mercury program, the United States' first manned spaceflight program that had the primary goal of putting a man in orbit around Earth.

Born March 6, 1927, in Shawnee, Okla., Cooper was selected as a Mercury astronaut in April 1959. The

astronauts became heroes in the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union. Cooper's cocksure attitude was immortalized in Tom Wolfe's book "The Right Stuff" and the 1983 movie of the same name.

Cooper gave his signature line during a 1995 reunion of surviving Mercury astronauts. When asked who was the greatest fighter pilot he ever saw, Cooper enthusiastically answered, "You're looking at him!"

On May 15, 1963, Cooper piloted the "Faith 7" spacecraft on a 22-orbit mission that concluded the operational phase of the Project Mercury. He flew for 34 hours and 20 minutes. Two years later, he served as command pilot of the Gemini 5 mission, during which he and Charles Conrad established a new space endurance record by traveling more than 3.3 million miles in time of 190 hours, 56 minutes.

The flight proved that humans could survive in a weightless state for the length of a trip to the moon. It also tested a new power source for future flights - fuel cells.

Cooper joined the Marines during World War II and transferred to the Air Force in 1949. He flew numerous flights as a test pilot in the Flight Test Division at Edwards Air Force Base.

"Gordon Cooper's legacy is permanently woven into the fabric of the Kennedy Space Center (news - web sites) as a Mercury Seven astronaut," said Kennedy Space Center director Jim Kennedy. "His achievements helped build the foundation of success for human space flight that NASA and KSC have benefited from for the past four decades."

PASSING OF DR. JOHN MACK

At this time we must with great sorrow confirm that Dr. John Mack has passed away in London, England. Dr. Mack was a well known Abduction Researcher and author of several books.

Dr. Mack was one of several speakers discussing British officer T.E. Lawrence ("Lawrence of Arabia") at the T. E. Lawrence Society Symposium, in Oxford on Sunday. Dr Mack's 1977 biography of T.E. Lawrence, A Prince of Our Disorder, received the Pulitzer Prize in biography (see complete bio below). Dr. Mack's presentation at an afternoon panel was so warmly received that he was asked to stay and present an additional evening talk, which again met with positive response.

On Monday, he spent time in London and went to dinner with friends. On his return to the home at which he was staying while in London, traveling on foot on Totteridge Road, he was struck by a vehicle being driven by an intoxicated driver. Dr. Mack was in a crosswalk. Dr. Mack was pronounced dead on the scene by London police and is believed to have died on impact.

This information will be revised as needed and will be replaced by a statement from Dr. Mack's family when available. Information will be posted to the John Mack Institute website:
www.johnemackinstitute.org
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Silent Running: 'Black Triangle' Sightings on the Rise
By Leonard David, Senior Space Writer, 2 September 2004

http://space.com/businesstechnology/flying_triangle_040902.html

They have become legendary in UFO circles. Huge, silent-running “Flying Triangles” have been seen by ground observers creeping through the sky low and slow near cities and quietly cruising over highways.

The National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS), has catalogued the Triangle sightings, sifting through and combining databases to take a hard look at the mystery craft. Based in Las Vegas, Nevada, NIDS is a privately funded science institute with a strong research focusing on aerial phenomena. The results of their study have just been released and lead to some unnerving, still puzzling conclusions.

The study points out: “The United States is currently experiencing a wave of Flying Triangle sightings that may have intensified in the 1990s, especially towards the latter part of the 1990s. The wave continues. The Flying Triangles are being openly deployed over and near population centers, including in the vicinity of major Interstate Highways.”

Covert operations?

A key NIDS conclusion is that the actions of these triangular craft do not conform to previous patterns

of covert deployment of unacknowledged aircraft. Furthermore, "neither the agenda nor the origin of the Flying Triangles are currently known."

The years 1990-2004 have seen an intense wave of Flying Triangle aircraft, the study observes. Sifting through reports by hundreds of eyewitnesses, the NIDS assessment states that the behavior of the vehicles "does not appear consistent with the covert deployment of an advanced DoD [U.S. Department of the Defense] aircraft."

Rather, it is consistent with (a) the routine and open deployment of an unacknowledged advanced DoD aircraft or (b) the routine and open deployment of an aircraft owned and operated by non-DoD personnel, suggests the NIDS study.

"The implications of the latter possibility are disturbing, especially during the post 9/11 era when the United States airspace is extremely heavily guarded and monitored," the NIDS study explains. "In support of option (a), there is much greater need for surveillance in the United States in the post 9/11 era and it is certainly conceivable that deployment of low altitude surveillance platforms is routine and open."

Open, even brazen

According to Colm Kelleher, NIDS Administrator, the newly completed quasi "meta-analysis" of Flying Triangles melds three major U.S. databases: NIDS, the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) and data collected by independent researcher, Larry Hatch, the creator and owner of one of the largest and most comprehensive UFO databases in the world.

Kelleher said, the analysis indicates that deployment of Flying Triangles is open, not covert, and involves low-flying, brightly lit aircraft routinely deployed over populated areas including cities and Interstate highways.

"However, I cannot say whether these are U.S. Air Force aircraft. We simply don't know," Kelleher told SPACE.com . "But it does not appear to be consistent with the covert patterns of deployment we saw with the F-117 and B-2 prior to their acknowledgement. This is open, even brazen," he stated.

Stealth aircraft

For example, a perfunctory look at the how past DoD stealth aircraft programs were kept from public eye -- although eventually came to light -- is different from the patterns for the Flying Triangles.

Prior to acknowledgement of the F-117 and B-2 aircraft, only rare night time sightings occurred in the sparsely populated sections of Nevada, California and a few other states. Flying at low altitude over populated areas was rarely reported for the F-117 or B-2.

"In contrast, the Flying Triangle deployment, especially during the 1990s, appears more consistent with the open and public operation of these aircraft," the study explains. The trend of open deployment of the Flying Triangles is not consistent with secret operation of an advanced DoD aircraft.

No attempt to hide

The database-driven study of the Flying Triangle shows the following patterns:

-- Sightings take place near cities and on Interstate highways
-- They are seen at low altitude in plain sight of eyewitnesses
-- They fly at extremely low speed or hover in plain sight of eyewitnesses
-- The vehicles sometime fly with easily noticeable bright lights -- either blinding white lights, or have "bright disco lights" that usually flash combinations of red, green or blue.

The NIDS study emphasizes that the flying of these vehicles may be more in harmony with an attempt to display or to be noticed. There appears to be little or no attempt to hide. That finding has led to a modification of an earlier NIDS hypothesis that the Triangles are covertly deployed DoD aircraft.

While it is too early to dismiss the previously published NIDS correlation between Triangle sightings and a subset of U.S. Air Force Bases, the apparent association with centers of population may point away from a covert program. "Rather, it is consistent with routine and open deployment of an advanced aircraft," the NIDS study concludes.

Clustered on both coasts

During the ensuing years (2000-2004), NIDS received hundreds of reports from people in the United States and Canada reporting large triangular aircraft, often silent and often flying at very low altitude and at low air speed. In many cases, the objects were brightly lit. NIDS files also include reports of Flying Triangles from remote areas.

In mid 2004, NIDS reviewed its database that contains the locations of the Triangle sightings in the United States. The sightings of Triangles appear primarily adjacent to population centers and along Interstate Highways, with sightings clustered on both coasts.

NIDS has amassed almost 400 separate sightings of triangular/boomerang/wedge-shaped objects. Many of these craft are brightly lit, low flying, and traveling at unexpectedly low air speeds.

In earlier reports, NIDS outlined a tentative correlation between reported sightings of Triangles and the locations of Air Mobility Command and Air Force Materiel Command bases in the United States.

Like a Star Trek "uncloaking"

According to ground observers, the features of a Black Triangle are indeed impressive.

For example, the NIDS study includes the observation of a Port Washington Wisconsin person who encountered a large object that flew over her home at 500 feet altitude in October 1998. Her eyeing of the clear starry night was interrupted as the craft came into her field of view.

"Suddenly this monstrosity came out of the 'blue', just like a Star Trek 'uncloaking', no kidding...so quiet I couldn't believe it and so huge...no more than 500 feet or so up, and big enough to take up my field of sky vision," she reported.

Crude mathematics, the witness recounted, would make the vessel about 200 feet wide and 250 feet long.

Two camps

In wrapping up its look at the burgeoning number of Flying Triangle sightings in the United States, NIDS also took into account the work of writers and researchers delving into the topic both in the United States and abroad.

Those analyses fall into two camps: The Triangles are human-made, while the other says they are not.

"In 2004 it is extremely difficult to distinguish between these two possibilities since the former option overlaps heavily with legitimate national security concerns, while in the absence of much more physical evidence, the latter option is not testable," the NIDS assessment concludes.

Authenticity Meters Added To Majestic Documents by Ryan S. Wood

rswood@majesticdocuments.com
www.majesticdocuemnts.com

BROOMFIELD, CO--Sept 22, 2004 - The incredible story that the Majestic documents tell of crashed UFOs, extraterrestrial bodies, government control, policies of denial, and manipulation pose a profound challenges to our free society. Yet at the core is the question of document and content authenticity.

http://www.majesticdocuments.com/documents/authenticity.php

Many of the most sensational and intriguing Majestic documents are not from official sources, such as the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) or government document libraries. Because of this fact, the issue of authenticity becomes paramount if one is to believe the content of the documents.

Authenticity is a manifold function; it is not as simple as "true or false" or "hoaxed or real". Authenticity of a document involves examining many questions, such as:

1. Where did the document come from?

2. What are the results of the forensic paper, ink, watermark, typewriter and handwriting tests?

3. Are there unique and obscure content markers that are accurate for this type of document?

4. Are there direct first hand witnesses?

5. How difficult is the document to hoax or fake?

6. Who would have faked the document and why?

All of these factors as well as other subtleties weave their way into an authenticity rating for each document.

To fairly and effectively rate each document for authenticity there needs to be a weighting factor for each authenticity attribute under consideration. For example, there is a strong difference between forensic paper and ink testing, a weighting of 5.0, and more easily obtained document content, a weighting factor 2.0. Courts widely recognize this concept, discounting eyewitness testimony in favor of DNA evidence. In the end each document receives an authenticity rating based on the multiplication of the weighting factor and the document's score on that attribute. The goal is to make the rating system as objective as possible.

The final authenticity score for each document is based on a series of weighted factors:

1. Eyewitness - First hand witness(es) that were directly involved with the questioned document - either they saw it, destroyed it, read it, wrote it, or contributed to the document's creation in a tangible way. Witnesses are fallible, there memories change with time and can be influenced. Eyewitnesses are given a weighting factor of 3.0.

2. Zingers - These are aspects of any of the key authenticity metrics that go far beyond the norm. In essence, a zinger is a verified rare subtlety of a document that is obscure, weird, or odd. Examples would include typographical anomalies associated with the printed process of the era. Zingers are given a weighting factor of 5.0.

3. Content - Refers to the words and meaning of the document. Are the dates, document references, and individuals mentioned appropriate? What does the document say in relation to what was known then and known now? Are there obscure facts that were classified then that were declassified or became public after the document was leaked? Content is given a weighting factor of 2.0.

4. Chronology - This looks at the placement of the document content with respect to organizational history. Are the people mentioned in the memo or report supposed to be there? Is the document consistent with other documents of the era, does it fit in or is it out of place? Chronology is given a weighting factor of 2.0.

5. Typography - This category relates to typewriters, typesetting, laser printing, photocopying, memography - in essence any technique that creates or reproduces writing on paper. Typology is given a weighting factor of 4.0.

6. Forensics - This refers to the testing of original paper, verifying watermarks, and testing inks with known authentic standards. Forensics are given a weighting factor of 5.0.

7. Linguistics - The use of forensic linguistics fits in this category. This is the examination by experts of sentence structure, spelling, punctuation, and writing style. Both sophisticated computer tools and hand analysis are used to pinpoint unique style markers that uniquely define authorship. Linguistics are given a weighting factor of 3.0.

8. Anachronisms - These are problems with the document: dates out of place, formats wrong, similar handwriting, copied content from other documents, or conflicting stories. These issues can be significant or minor depending on what is know about the frequency of such an anachronism. For example, addressing a military general by his first name in a document may seem like a major mistake in the modern era, but 50 years ago in the company of other generals, this anachronism could in fact be a hallmark of authenticity. The weighting factor for anachronisms is 5.0.

Sometimes the information in the public domain for the authenticity of a document is incomplete or uncompelling, but the internal research and verification by www.majesticdocuments.com staff shows a more complete story. For those interested in the authenticity of a particular document feel free to contact us directly for further discussions.

Given these weighting factors, five different levels of authenticity are used to define each document:

High Level of Authenticity - 80-100%

This means that virtually all of the available investigation channels and ideas have been pursued and at each test the document has shown to be authentic. For example, tests in paper, ink, obscure content, handwriting, period typography and fonts, correct formatting, forensic linguistics (along with no sign of anachronisms), all indicate the highest level of authenticity. At this level, witnesses are present that have seen or read the document in an "official" capacity and will or have signed an affidavit to that effect.

Medium-High Level of Authenticity- 60-80%

The medium-high level means that a considerable amount of investigation and testing has been completed and there are strong signs of authenticity in the way of content, forensics, typography, zingers etc. Although there may be some anachronisms identified they do not seem to be major.

Medium Level of Authenticity - 40-60%

The medium level is the starting point for most documents that are under-researched. This level a document shows both signs of positive authenticity and questions as detailed in the eight attributes of authenticity cited above.

Medium-Low Level of Authenticity - 20-40%

The medium-low level means the document has been studied by many individuals or organizations and there are stubborn anachronisms that cannot easily be resolved. However, there are elements (many pages and or paragraphs) of the document that show signs of authenticity, but on balance there are more bad points than good.

Low Level of Authenticity - 0-20%

A low level means that significant irresolvable anachronisms have been identified that cast considerable doubt on the entire document. Virtually all investigative avenues have been pursued and shown little or no sign of authenticity. A credible motive for faking the document may be identified along with likely perpetrators.

For further discussion of authenticity, see the Document Authentication section.

http://www.majesticdocuments.com/documents/authenticity.php

Here you will find in-depth analyses of several documents, such as "The Oppenheimer-Einstein Draft" and "Field Order 862, The Interplanetary Phenomenon Unit," and several detailed articles such as "Mounting Evidence For Authenticity of MJ-12 Documents" and "Validating the New Majestic Documents" that describe the authentication process in detail. You'll also find a videotaped discussion on the topic of document authentication.

Ryan S. Wood, Document Researcher

www.majesticdocuemnts.com
Phone: 720-887-8239
E-mail: rswood@majesticdocuments.com, Or mail to:
14004 Quail Ridge Drive, Broomfield, CO 80020

Crop Circle found in Lake Elmo, MN

A crop circle in corn was discovered in Lake Elmo, MN and visited by Minnesota MUFON Field Investigators – Dean and Margaret DeHarpporte, and Joel Henry on 10/23/04.

The farmer had harvested around the formation leaving a border of standing corn around it. The local Sheriff was the 1st to enter the formation, then a KSTP news crew and the farmer before our team.

Notes on the formation:
1- Single circle, 37ft across N-S, 40ft across E-W, oblong shape.
2- Crop height (~7ft.) equal inside and outside of formation.
3- Stalks were broken at the root base, very flattened, all aligned towards the south (not in a circular fashion).
4- No expulsion cavities or elongated nodes were found.
5- Formation date ~2 weeks prior to 10/23/04 (est. by farmer).
6- Animals had entered the circle and eaten much of the remaining corn on the ground. Some cobs had a black substance on them, probably fungus.

Photo by Lauren Nelson (c)10/23/04

We were unable to take samples or drag for magnetic particles due to the rain and the muddiness of the ground. If warranted, we will return when the ground is dry.

[*The following 2 articles are reports on the recent Richard Dolan Lecture sponsored by Minnesota MUFON*]:

RICHARD DOLAN PRESENTATION
by Bill McNeff, MN MUFON Assist. State Dir.

Richard Dolan gave a computer-illustrated presentation at the NBFSC on Oct. 16, titled "The UFO Coverup and the American Police State." His goal is to look at UFOs as a scientist would. A sub-goal is to write about "the slow death of the American republic." He stated that "UFOs are a big part of the cancer of secrecy," although they are totally unacknowledged officially. He compared the American situation with Rome, which had a republic of sorts in 44 BC. The Senate elected the national leader annually, until Julius marched his troops across the Rubicon into Rome and had himself crowned "Caesar" or emperor. A further comparison with Rome is that the US has bases in 59 nations.

During the last 50 some years the US has had a national security revolution. UFOs are a potential national security threat which can not be acknowledged, therefor we have government by secrecy. Exotic technology is involved. The UFO subject has profound implications for human society. Dolan said he has received e-mail threats due to his investigations. He has dealt with the elite close to the inner circle, who take UFOs as being extraterrestrial for granted. One question is whether we can duplicate the technology. Some say no, but some say we have had it for years, and the Soviets have it, too. The Belgian triangles seen over a decade ago easily outperformed F-16s, but few cared if the triangles were "ours" or "theirs".

Steven Bassett says the political parties will want to be "The Discloser." But disclosure would lead to big questions. The economic impact could be devastating. Dolan believes, "Black programs are doing reverse engineering on the UFOs. A Nobel physicist confirmed this to me." A lot of money and power is involved. Why should they share it? Said Dolan, "I only write what can be historically verified, but there is much we don't know. Truth is a radical thing!"

Dolan then began to review the historical record. In 1942 a UFO was sighted at night over Los Angeles. Anti-aircraft guns blasted away at it, presuming it was a Japanese weapon. A news photo showed the UFO caught in the beams of eight searchlights. "Foo-fighters" were reported around the world, not just over Europe. Although the Germans had disk designs, none were operational. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle investigated the foo-fighters, as did the OSS and British intelligence. In 1946 the "ghost rockets" appeared over Scandinavian countries, but some flew too slowly to be rockets. Fragments of these objects, about 30, were recovered and were said to have writing on them, but were attributed to sources other than rockets. Twenty years later, scientist Paul Santorini told Ray Fowler the objects were not Russian and were not missiles.

Then in 1947 came Roswell. We have testimony by Gen. Thomas Dubose, who said that the weather balloon explanation was a coverup, and Maj. Jesse Marcel, who said the Roswell wreckage was "not of this world", and we have the Ramey memo. Efforts to read it are continuing. Perhaps a higher resolution scan would help resolve it. Doubters point to the Twining Memo of 1947 which spoke of "lack of [UFO] ... debris". This memo was to lower ranking Gen. Schulgren and could not reveal classified information. But reading the memo is revealing about what Twining knew. "I believe that Roswell was an ET crash," Dolan said.

Col. W. D. Wentworth in an Oct. 1947 memo wrote, "The AMC [Air Material Command] is making models. The flying saucer did exist." Gen. Arthur Exxon said that in July 1947 "extraordinary material arrived from Roswell. There were rumors of alien bodies."

Project Sign was set up. It considered three possibilities for UFO origin: Soviet, US, and ET. Sign developed a rift over UFO reality. The consensus was that UFOs were real and were serious.

Dolan stated that he is "not willing to reject the MJ-12 documents. I don't see how an ordinary person could have known the stuff in the documents," for example, Donald Menzel's involvement. By the way, J. Allen Hynek worked under Menzel for several years. Robert Landry briefed Harry S Truman on UFOs quarterly. During 1947 and 1948 the USAF attempted intercepts of UFOs. Truman feared the CIA, as did Eisenhower. In his farewell speech, Eisenhower warned about the "military-industrial complex." He was concerned that control over the handling of the UFO situation had gotten away from him.

James Forrestal, the first Secretary of Defense, kept diaries which are still classified! Forrestal had an uneasy relationship with HST. After his election, HST fired Forrestal. After Forrestal's farewell party, Sen. Stuart Symington got into Forrestal's limousine, and apparently told him something that left him visibly shaken. Forrestal went downhill from there and was eventually hospitalized. In May 1949 he was "on the mend", but was not allowed to see either his brother or a priest. His brother arrived to get him out, but the next morning he was dead, an alleged suicide. There was no investigation other than by the Navy, who had been guarding him.

In 1949 an FBI memo states that UFOs had been sighted near the AEC installations at Los Alamos, Kirtland AFB, and Hanford.

The famous UFO photos taken by farmer Paul Trent near McMinnville, Oregon have been thoroughly analyzed and are legitimate.

In July 1952 at Washington DC, over the course of six hours, ten UFOs were seen. A group of CIA agents at a party saw some of them. This had been preceded in June by a meeting in Gen. Samford's office, in which a colonel said, "Can't we just say that they are interplanetary?" After the Washington flap, Gen. Samford held a press conference where he issued the explanation that the UFO sightings were due to temperature inversions. But an intelligence memo stated that the UFOs were "possibly alien." [Part 2 of Bill McNeff's article will appear in the next issue of MMJ]

The Coverup Revisited: Richard M. Dolan's 10/16/04 Talk at MN MUFON (c)2004 by Craig R. Lang, MN MUFON FI Coordinator

On Saturday (10/16/04) Richard M. Dolan, the author of the book "UFOs and the National Security State" gave a presentation to Minnesota MUFON. What he said was, to say the least, sobering.

I have never been particularly interested in the coverup aspects of UFO studies, and it never will be my primary area of focus. When I hear the word "Roswell" I usually run in the other direction. But what Richard Dolan said far transcends the field of UFO studies. I have never before heard the issue of runaway secrecy described in such succinct terms, with such well defined examples.

Dolan began his talk with an analogy of the state of US republic to that of the Roman republic. He showed how in both cases, the republic was quite healthy until the point when the nation became the center of an empire. In each case, the conquered territories become progressively more difficult to govern with a representative government. At the same time, the military - expanding to control the territories - gains progressively more power. At some point, there is a "Julius Caesar crossing the Rubicon", in which the representative system truly becomes ineffective, and the government becomes fully authoritarian.

Dolan suggested that one measure of the health of our republic would be the size of the black budget - and as a corollary, the degree to which congress has control over the intelligence community. To those involved in the overall family of coverup issues, this is the core of the problem. The issue is that of an ever expanding, but unaccountable shadow government that is steadily growing in unchecked authority.

At the present time, Dolan states, the Rubicon has been crossed. In our case this is called the Patriot Act. And at this point, he suggests that true representative authority in our republic may be unrecoverable.

Since his primary area of study is the UFO coverup, the nuts and bolts of his talk was on the history of UFO secrecy. His first volume covers events from 1941 through 1975. His second volume is due out this next year, and traces the UFO coverup from 1975 to the present. However, what happened in the 1970s and 1980s is, by his account particularly damning. This is when - after Watergate - we had the chance to roll back the National Security State, but failed to do so. As Dolan stated, we opened the door, took a peek and then slammed it shut again. The one truly meaningful legacy of that era has been the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). This was relatively effective until recently, when became moot because of the Patriot act.

From the late 1970s, through the 1990s, there were a large number of FOIA requests for UFO related material, many of which provided some great paydirt. John Greenwald's efforts resulting in his website: The Black Vault have resulted in some excellent work in this area. However, apparently he has not had all that much success in recent years, either. It appears as though the coverup has patched its holes and resumed business as usual.

Dolan covered the usual low points in American history such as the Robertson Panel, the death of James Forrestal (one of the founding members of MJ12, who "committed suicide" in 1948), the Condon Report, and the decline of project Bluebook. He also discussed MJ12, and built a good case for it's continued existence (in some form or another) in the present day. He offered recent high profile UFO cases, and the reactions of the press, the government, and even the scientific community, as indications of the state of non-health of participative government in the USA. It is not a pretty picture.

In short, Richard Dolan offered a sobering view of the evolution of the USA from a republic to an authoritarian military police state beginning in the early 1940s, and accelerating in the present day. His parallels with the decline of the Roman republic were alarming, both in their clarity and their accuracy. They cast a new and sobering light on current events.

In my view, the book "UFOs and the National Security State" is a must-read for anyone studying contemporary history, even if one has little interest in the topic of UFO studies itself. And the vision it portrays of the contemporary history and near-term future of the USA is not pleasant to think about.

Tapes available of the Richard Dolan Lecture

The Rich Dolan presentation ended up being 3hrs and 56 minutes long. I'm charging the following for copies (does NOT include shipping):

1 VHS EP Tape $10
2 VHS SP Tapes $15
2 S-VHS SP Tapes $20

These prices are pretty much my cost considering the low quantities sold -- usually about 10 copies.
If you want the highest quality and have a S-VHS VCR, buy the 2 S-VHS tape set. If you don't have a S-VHS VCR, buy the 2 VHS tapes. If you are going to make copies for friends, buy the SP format. If you don't care about the quality, are not making copies and some of Rich's slides may not be too readable, buy one VHS EP tape. The audio quality will be the same high fidelity no matter which option you choose.
My objective is to produce a quality job --- like we do when we tape the IUFOC and MUFON-Denver conferences. Comments are appreciated.

PLEASE RSVP HOW MANY TAPES YOU WANT TO ORDER if you will be picking them up at the next MN-MUFON meeting. If you wish to order by mail, send inquiries to: uforobert@aol.com so shipping costs may be added to the order.

Minnesota MUFON

State Dir.: Richard Moss (320) 732-3205
Assist. State Dir.: Bill McNeff (952) 890-1390
Field Invest. Coord.: Craig Lang (763) 560-1532
Journal Editor: Joel Henry, PO Box 240631
Apple Valley, MN 55124
(952) 431-2426 E-Mail: mmj@mnmufon.org

MN MUFON WEB PAGE
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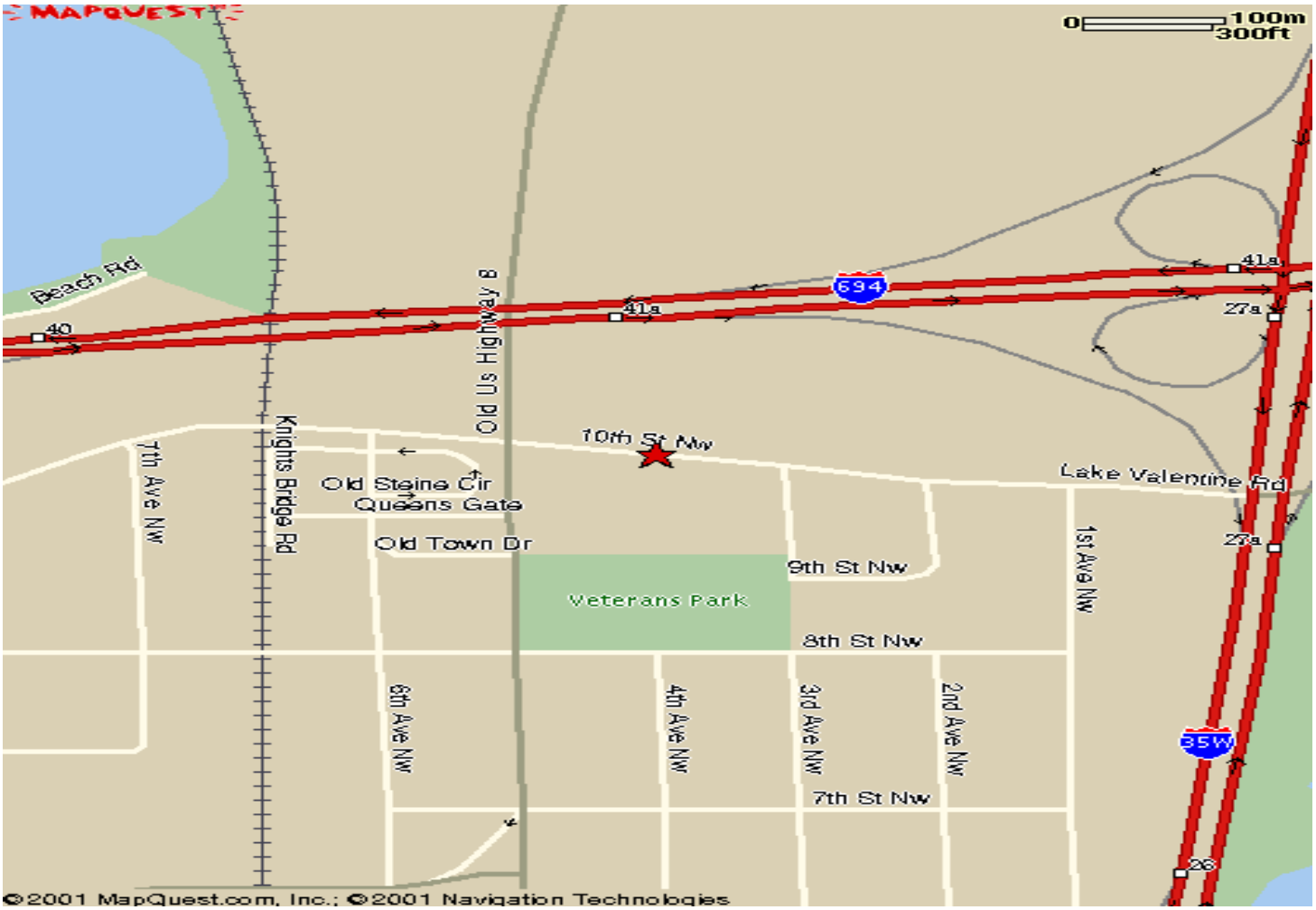

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Joel Henry, Editor
P.O. Box 240631
Apple Valley, MN 55124

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